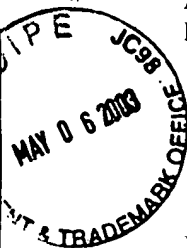


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P.2.



Attorney Docket No. 5212

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Hendricks, John S.

Examiner: C. Grant

Serial No.: 09/124,043

Art Unit: 2611

Filed: July 29, 1998

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GATHERING PROGRAMS
WATCHED DATA

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the April 9, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-31, 39-50, 59-65, and 117-136, drawn to an apparatus that gathers viewing habits or programs watched data, for examination. The election is made with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all claims 1-136 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, Applicants submit that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See M.P.E.P. §803, which states that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits" (emphasis added). Applicants submit that this policy should apply in the above-identified application in order to prevent unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees to deposit account 04-1425.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 6, 2003



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